



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

October 16, 2007

H.R. 783

Mesa Verde National Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2007

As ordered reported by the House Committee on Natural Resources on October 10, 2007

SUMMARY

H.R. 783 would authorize the National Park Service (NPS) to acquire about 360 acres to be added to Mesa Verde National Park. Assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing H.R. 783 would cost \$12 million over the 2008-2012 period. Enacting H.R. 783 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

H.R. 783 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COSTS TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 783 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars				
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
CHANGES IN SPENDING SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATION					
Estimated Authorization Level	2	10	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	2	2	3	3	2

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

For this estimate, CBO assumes H.R. 783 will be enacted early in fiscal year 2008. Based on information provided by the NPS and assuming appropriation of the necessary amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would cost \$2 million in 2008 and \$12 million over the 2008-2012 period. Of that amount, we estimate that the NPS would spend \$2 million in the first year to purchase a 324-acre tract of land called the Henneman property. The remaining \$10 million would be spent to construct a visitor facility on a portion of a 38-acre property expected to be donated to the NPS in 2008 or 2009. Some federal construction costs could be offset by private donations to the NPS or through cost-sharing arrangements with the Mesa Verde Foundation.

We estimate that annual expenses to administer lands acquired under the bill, including those to operate the new visitor facility, would be less than \$100,000.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 783 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in UMRA and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On June 7, 2007, CBO transmitted a cost estimate for S. 126, the Mesa Verde National Park Boundary Expansion Act of 2007, as ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources on May 23, 2007. S. 126 and H.R. 783 are identical, as are the estimated costs.

ESTIMATE PREPARED BY:

Federal Costs: Deborah Reis

Impact on State, Local, and Tribal Governments: Lisa Ramirez-Branum

Impact on the Private Sector: Amy Petz

ESTIMATE APPROVED BY:

Theresa Gullo

Deputy Assistant Director for Budget Analysis